



Comprehensive Plan Update Minutes - Steering Committee Meeting #5

June 5, 2019, 11:30am – 1:00pm

Yenni Building, 1221 Elmwood Park Blvd, Suite 601, Jefferson, LA 70123

Attendees

Steering Committee Members

Bob Evans
Bruce Layburn
Bruce Richards
Liz Van Dervort
Mike Boudreaux
Tony Ligi
Lloyd Tran

Jefferson Parish Staff

Terri Wilkinson, Director, Planning
Department
Juliette Cassagne, Assistant Planning
Director, Planning Department
Melissa Guilbeau, Senior Planner, Planning
Department

Absent Steering Committee Members

Kelly Hand
Derek Chisholm
Stan Salathe
Bruce Wainer
Jackie Madden
Lee Giorgio

Consulting Team

Tiffany Peperone Pitre, Digital Engineering
Matt Rufo, Asakura Robinson

Call to Order

At 11:30am, Committee Chair Bob Evans called the meeting to order, declared quorum and welcomed the Committee.

11:39am Minutes Approved

Mike Boudreaux motioned to approve the minutes from Steering Committee Meeting #4, Tony Ligi seconded. All voted in favor of approving minutes.

11:40am Presentation on Public Participation

Matt Rufo presented the community engagement efforts undertaken since the last Steering Committee meeting. This included two public meetings and two online surveys. Matt Rufo informed committee members that on-line participation is open until Friday, June 7, 2019. Liz Van Dervort urged committee members to promote on-line participation. Terri Wilkinson

explained that the planning department and consultant team is still receiving input and deliberating on the draft plan. The draft Plan will undergo a 30-day review period; Planning Advisory Board and public hearings; and at the suggestion of Bob Evans, outreach to umbrella groups such as East and West Bank Civic Leagues and the Jefferson Chamber's new group for business and civic interests. The Plan document will likely be revised at each step; however, the Steering Committee would be presented with a plan close to the final product at Steering Committee meeting #6.

12:12pm – 12:41pm Draft Updated Plan

Terri Wilkinson presented a summary of the Draft Updated Plan including:

- Updated vision statement and sub-vision statements
- Adoption of the Housing Stock Enhancement Plan by reference
- Plan elements

Ms. Wilkinson asked the committee to consider whether the proposed updated vision statement properly captured the new vision. Bruce Richards supported the consolidation of the goals, objectives and policies and inquired about the marina district referenced in the implementation table. Ms. Wilkinson confirmed that the marina district was the West End area and reported progress as officials from Jefferson Parish, City of New Orleans and the State of Louisiana are in discussions and negotiating a cooperative endeavor agreement.

Mr. Richards inquired about South New Orleans Sub-Area Plan listed on the implementation table. Ms. Wilkinson explained that South New Orleans is a "paper" subdivision on the West Bank.

Mr. Richards inquired about the lack of corridor plans within the implementation table. Ms. Wilkinson suggested that identifying the correct zoning rather than sub-area planning was a more efficient use of the Parish's resources for these corridors.

Bruce Layburn commented that the housing portion of the Plan captured the correct current issues – aging Parish with younger people leaving. He urged the committee to recognize that Jefferson Parish is in a regional competition and recommended mounting an effort to promote Jefferson Parish and its positive attributes. Ms. Wilkinson asked whether the JEDCO plans captured promotional issues, how this task could be framed, and who would be the correct entity to lead. Mr. Evans opined that JEDCO would be a proper party and that Jefferson Parish should promote its recreation, libraries, law enforcement and overall infrastructure. Tony Ligi recommended commercials that promote Jefferson Parish and inquired if any group was currently running a commercial. Ms. Wilkinson asked how we could frame this task. Mr. Ligi recommended supporting a multi-party initiative. Juliette Cassagne noted that Jefferson Tourism and Conventions Bureau may be an interested party with the applicable corresponding duties. Lloyd Tran said that improving the school system should be a top priority to attract young households. Mr. Layburn noted that there are two new schools in the JEDCO park and a united school board. Ms. Wilkinson added that the voters recently approved teacher pay raises.

Mr. Richards agreed with the Plan "snippet" that expressed a desire for more park-like levees and noted that he receives many similar comments from the public. Ms. Wilkinson noted that flood protection agencies regulate landscaping on the lake and riverfront levees to protect their structural integrity. Ms. Wilkinson suggested focusing on areas where success is possible, such as reestablishing the bike paths in the marina district.

Future Land Use Map

Juliette Cassagne presented:

- Updated Future Land Use Categories
- Updated Future Land Use Map
- Introduced the Future Land Use Map Matrix

Ms. Cassagne explained that the map remained a work in progress. Mr. Layburn commented that the proposed maximum density of three residential units per acre in the Waggaman area was too low, and he would like to see what four units per acre looks like. Mr. Layburn questioned whether the rural category really reflects Jefferson Parish's future - especially near the bridge exit. Ms. Cassagne explained that the Future Land Use categories are general guidance and not regulatory, and that the area's S-1 zoning is controlling. She reported that the consultant team is drafting criteria to be considered when evaluating whether a proposed zoning change is consistent with the FLUM.

Mr. Richards recommended revising descriptions of the Future Land Use categories regarding possible and secondary uses, particularly Suburban Residential. Mr. Evans noted the importance of protecting single-family residential homes.

Closing Comments and Next-Steps

Ms. Wilkinson advised that the next Steering Committee meeting would be scheduled for early August. The consultant team will poll potential meeting dates. The public comment period is planned for September and Council consideration for adoption in November, 2019.

1:04 Meeting Adjourned

Mr. Evans thanked the committee, staff, and consultants and asked if anyone had any additional business. The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Richards.